

Supervisor Molina Honors Tony Chavez for Service in ‘Operation Iraqi Freedom’

At the Tuesday, June 7 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, First District Supervisor Gloria Molina honored County employee and U.S. Marine Corps Reservist Antonio “Tony” Chavez—who will be deployed in August to Fallujah, Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom—and wished him a safe and speedy return upon completion of his tour of duty.



Supervisor Molina wishes Tony Chavez a safe and speedy return from Iraq. Accompanying Chavez are his girlfriend Letty Andrade and mother Patty Noyola.

Chavez has been part of the County family since 1997 when he joined the Information and Resource Management Division as a student worker. He rose up the ranks to the position of Intermediate Board Specialist, making him responsible for computer configuration, repair, upgrading and troubleshooting.

Chavez enlisted with the Marine Corps Reserves in March 2003. He is assigned to the 4th Marine Division, 5th Battalion, 14th Marines. His duties will include local security of key areas of Iraq, as well as policing of some of the most heavily impacted cities in Iraq.

“Tony’s done a lot of computer repair work on the eighth floor, which is how my staff and I got to know him,” Supervisor Molina said. “We found Tony to be personable, intelligent and conscientious—and we know he cares a lot about the world around him. So it wasn’t a shock for us to learn he’d joined the Reserves. But a lot of us were surprised—and, frankly, a little sad—when we learned he’d be leaving County service to join our nation’s armed forces in Iraq.”

Chavez has lived in the County of Los Angeles for 26 years. He is a graduate of Stanford Elementary School, South Gate Junior High, and Woodrow Wilson High School.

“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”

“I’m very proud to say that he is a true son of the First District,” Supervisor Molina added. “We will miss you, Tony. We appreciate the services you’ve provided to the County all these years. We commend you for your bravery and patriotism. And on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I truly wish you a safe and speedy return home upon completion of your tour of duty in Iraq.”

Chavez joins a long list of fellow County employees who have been called to active military duty. As of April 2005, the number of reservists employed with the County of Los Angeles had reached 717—and, of these, 103 had been called to active duty.

Please check page 8 for additional information on County Reservists.

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EVENT CALENDAR

“All for the Love of Kids” Family Fundraiser & Award Dinner
Thursday, August 18, 2005 - 6-8 p.m.

The New Edwards Renaissance 14 Theatre
1 East Main Street, Alhambra

Sponsored by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and the Department of Children and Family Services, benefiting the Family and Children’s Services Trust Fund
Adults: \$35, Children under 12: \$12.50
Ticket includes free admission to a movie on event night
Contact: Keesee Gregory 213 739-6204, robike@dcfs.co.la.ca.us

Ford Amphitheatre
2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood 90068
(323) GO-1 FORD (323)461-4673
www.fordamphitheatre.org

BWF = Big World Fun LPS = Latino Play Reading Series
JULY

30 - BWF INCA, the Peruvian Ensemble: Stories of the Andes (10 a.m.)

30 - LPS: *Felicidad Inc.* by F.R. Campion (1 p.m.)

30 - REPRISÉ! Best of Broadway at the Ford (8:30 p.m.)

AUGUST

6 - BWF - Rangoli / Punyakoti (10 a.m.)

6 - LPS - From The Chronicles of Odisia Sanchez by Monica San (1 p.m.)

6 - Jazz Antiqua Dance/Music 12th Anniversary Concert (8:30 p.m.)

13 - BWF - On Ensemble / Japanese Taiko Drumming (10 a.m.)

13 - LPS - Clock by Monica Palacios (1 p.m.)

13 - Susan T Evans Belly Dance Live (8:30 p.m.)

19 - Fiesta Argentina - Esther Segovia & Nativia (8 p.m.)

20 - BWF - Asha’s Baba Stories of Africa (10 a.m.)

20 - LPS - House of the Rising Sun by Joaquin Espejo (1 p.m.)

20 - Jazz Pilgrimage 2005 - Pete Escovedo Tribute & Louie Cruz Beltran (8 p.m.)

Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia 91007

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes, please visit www.arboretum.org or call (626) 821-4623

July 30, August 13, 27, September 10 - California Philharmonic-Festival on the Green (7:30 p.m.)

August 20-21 - Cactus Show & Sale (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Sept. 3-4 - Fern and Exotic Plant Show & Sale (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Los Angeles County Museum of Art
5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036
(323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Through August 28 – Inventive World of Los Angeles Artist Tim Hawkinson

Through September 18 - Jacob van Ruisdael: Master of Landscape

Through November 15 - Tutankhamun & Golden Age of Pharaohs (King Tut Exhibit)

Music Center

135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012
(213) 972-7211

www.musiccenter.org

Mark Taper Forum

August 11-September 18 – August Wilson’s “Radio Golf”

Hollywood Bowl

2301 North Highland Ave., Hollywood 90078
(323) 850-2000

www.hollywoodbowl.com

JULY

26 - LA Philharmonic: Stravinsky’s Petrushka

27 - LA Philharmonic Presents: Etta James/ Buddy Guy

28 - LA Philharmonic: Tchaikovsky & Copland

29-31 - LA Philharmonic Presents: Great American Concert
AUGUST

2 - LA Philharmonic: Watts Plays Brahms

3 - LA Philharmonic Presents: Gladys Knight/ Chaka Khan

4 - LA Philharmonic: Symphonie Fantastique

5-6 - LA Philharmonic Presents: the Roaring Twenties

7 - LA Philharmonic Presents: Yo-Yo Ma & Silk Road Ens

9 - LA Philharmonic: Bach and Vivaldi

10 - LA Philharmonic Presents: a Night W/Concord Records

11 - LA Philharmonic: Bach and Vivaldi

12-13 - LA Philharmonic: Tony Bennett

14 - LA Philharmonic Presents: Camelot

16 & 18 - LA Philharmonic: Mozart with Marriner

17 - LA Philharmonic Presents: A Celebration of Jobim

19-20 - LA Philharmonic: Natalie Cole

21 - LA Philharmonic Presents: JVC Jazz Festival

22 - James Taylor



Articles and other submissions to the *County DIGEST* may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

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Supervisor Knabe Declares June 2005 as Scleroderma Awareness Month

Supervisor Knabe announced that the Board of Supervisors declared June 2005 as Scleroderma Awareness Month. "There are nearly 300,000 people battling Scleroderma in the United States, yet there is so little awareness about this devastating disease," Supervisor Knabe said. "In designating June as Scleroderma Awareness Month, we can bring this disease to the forefront and help educate and fund research so that we may find a cure."



A fundraising and awareness event was hosted by the Southern California Chapter of the National Scleroderma Foundation called *Stepping Out to Cure Scleroderma*, a walk was held on June 5 in Huntington Beach's Central Park. Additional information about this event can be found at www.scleroderma.org/chapter/southerncal. "With events such as this walk, we can hope to reach out to many who want to contribute their part to find a cure for this disease," Supervisor Knabe said.

Literally "hard skin," scleroderma causes a thickening and tightening of the skin and in some cases can cause serious damage to internal organs or even result in death. Nearly 80% of those living with the disease are women although the disease can strike men and children across all ages and ethnicities.

Ry Cooder Receives Accolades from Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Molina

Supervisors Zev Yaroslavsky (*third from left*) and Gloria Molina (*right*) honored the Grammy-winning guitarist and "Buena Vista Social Club" producer Ry Cooder for his lifetime of musical contributions, and commemorated the June 14, 2005 release of his latest album "Chávez Ravine."



The album is an ambitious song-cycle chronicling the tragic post-war history of L.A.'s Chávez Ravine neighborhoods, a Latino enclave bulldozed in the early 1950s to make way for an affordable housing project that was later scrapped in favor of building Dodger Stadium. Joining Cooder, *from the left*, are fellow musicians on the project, East L.A. legends Willie "G" Garcia and sisters Ersi and Rosella Arvizu.

Arboretum Volunteer Shines at Awards Ceremony

On June 13, Phyllis Chapman, (*pictured with J. Gomez, Senior Deputy for Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, and Mark K. Wourms, Chief Executive Officer of the Arboretum*) became the first volunteer to achieve 35 years of service at the Arboretum. Mrs. Chapman was honored at the installation, awards and appreciation luncheon of Los Voluntarios, the Arboretum's volunteer organization.



Los Voluntarios is made up of some 235 dedicated members who collectively contributed approximately 29,500 hours of service last year. The Arboretum welcomes new volunteers, and this summer new recruits are especially needed in the Gift Shop, the many gardens, and at the weekend outdoor hospitality center. For more information about joining the Arboretum's volunteer team, please contact Nancy Pirovano at (626) 821-3244.

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ASSESSOR: Nicholas Napolitano, Paul C. O'Reilly

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Jose A. Gaspar

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: Phillip Ow

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Reynalda Flores, Raquel Gonzales

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Ghali Z. Ghali

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Deborah K. Shepler

PROBATION: Larry M. Anderson, Kwabena S. Kenyatta

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Emiko Dominguez, Leilani G. Jones, Rosalind Y. Murphy, Lydia Ruiz

PUBLIC WORKS: William R. Deutschman, Lee W. Reed, James L. Weaver

SHERIFF: Mable M. Austin, George K. Smith, Gary L. Thornton, Janet H. Williams

SUPERIOR COURT: Cheryl M. Bond, Bernadine Williams, Robert W. Zakon

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Dolores L. Martinez

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Manote Kongthong

FIRE: Michael G. Shearer

INTERNAL SERVICES: James J. Palmersheim, Jacqueline A. Paynes

MENTAL HEALTH: Robert Norman, Jean Terrazas

PROBATION: Aida Becerra, Carole E. Detora

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Natalia M. Alvarez

PUBLIC WORKS: Susan Ramirez

SHERIFF: Keith B. Brown, Thomas J. Floen

SUPERIOR COURT: Patricia G. Schwartz

Employee of the Month: Department of Health Services' Bobbi Jean Tanberg

Bobbi Jean Tanberg has been employed as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant at the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center since 1990. For seven years, she worked with the Adult Brain Injury Service, while the past eight years, she has been assigned to the Center for Applied Rehabilitation Technology (CART). CART provides a full range of services to children and adults with physical disabilities to help them lead more independent lives through the use of technological assistance.



Ms. Tanberg uses a wheelchair due to an orthopedic injury, yet serves as a role model to patients and staff. "As a person with a disability, patients value my life experiences. They often feel more comfortable sharing their fears with me about living with a disability. Our shared situation garners trust in accepting information that I provide, which they may have been unwilling to accept from other therapists. Most importantly, my actions alone, as an independent working professional, demonstrate to our patients that their lives are not over," she said.

Tanberg recently served as co-chair of Accessing Community Resources Committee for Occupational and Recreation Therapy, worked collaboratively to develop the "Positive Self Image" Life Coach Program and secured grant funding to renovate the Model Home at Rancho Los Amigos.

Also to her credit is the establishment of the computer therapy lab which staff utilizes to train patients on using the Internet to locate community resources serving spinal injured and other disabled persons. Additionally, bedside computer access was established so that staff could work more frequently with patients unable to visit the computer lab or CART. "This is particularly important for persons with severe disabilities, who are unable to experience independence with the simplest tasks without this technology," Tanberg said.

Very involved in the Occupational Therapy Department, Tanberg's efforts have resulted in her receipt of the Dorothy Wilson Award honoring program development and the Team Award honoring professional partnerships. She is a member of the Cafeteria Committee and participated in the recent American with Disabilities Act survey at Rancho.

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Supervisor Antonovich Hosts 8th Annual “Remembering Our Veterans and their Families: Past Present and Future”

On Saturday, May 28, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich hosted the 8th annual “Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families: Past Present and Future” event at Arcadia County Park. KNBC-4 Weatherman Fritz Coleman co-hosted the affair. Sheriff Lee Baca and Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman also attended to show their support for our veterans. Nearly 4,500 participants attended the day-long presentation of free services to veterans and their families from more than 100 agencies, including County departments, governmental, independent and private agencies. Attendees received an abundance of information and resources regarding health, employment, child support and legal services.

A special tribute to our armed forces began with a presentation of colors, 21-gun salute, and the playing of “Taps.” Skydivers descended from an altitude of 10,000 feet, including flyovers by vintage World War II era planes and a military helicopter.

Veterans brought copies of photos of loved ones to place on the “Wall of Remembrance,” along with American flags and other mementos. “Antonovich’s Children’s Village” provided a specialized area for youth, complete with face painting, arts and crafts, games, live children’s entertainment and free popcorn. Numerous vendors set up booths at the park, offering a wide range of displays and services from military vehicles and equipment to free tetanus vaccinations, haircuts and manicures.

“This day gives us the opportunity to remember those who sacrificed all for freedom and to share our respect for the veterans still living in our community,” Supervisor Antonovich said. “Today we remember veterans from World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the worldwide war on terror – thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines who dedicated themselves to the defense of our country, willingly placing themselves in harm’s way. We will never forget.”



Pictured from left to right are, Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, Michael D. Antonovich, Jr., Supervisor Antonovich, Fire Department employee Anthony Dixon (who recently returned from Iraq), his son Jeremy Dixon, and Chief Mike Frazer.



ENRICHING LIVES...

Peace Officer's Memorial at Sheriff's STARS Center



From left to right: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Chief Administrative Officer David E. Janssen, Supervisor Don Knabe, District Attorney Steve Cooley, Mr. John March, and Sheriff Lee Baca.

Peace officers are members of a very dangerous profession in which they put their lives on the line on a daily basis. This is evidenced by the thousands of names listed at the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C., honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to this great nation. On a more local front, the residents of Los Angeles County annually pay tribute to those members of County law enforcement agencies who were killed in the line of duty.

On May 25, the 36th annual Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Memorial, hosted by Sheriff Lee Baca, was held at the Sheriff's Training Academy and Regional Services (STARS) Center in Whittier. The event began with Sheriff Baca accepting a torch from runners who took part in a three-day, 315-mile memorial relay run which began at the Sherman Block Sheriff's Headquarters Building in Monterey Park and ended on May 22 at the Altadena Sheriff's Station. The run linked every mainland Sheriff's Station, while the Avalon Station held a simultaneous 26-mile run on Santa Catalina Island. Sheriff Baca used the torch to light a flame in front of the STARS Center memorial wall.

The approximate 500 law enforcement members and their families in attendance listened to well-chosen and heartfelt words by Sheriff Baca; Supervisors Michael D. Antonovich and Don Knabe; Chief Administrative Officer David E. Janssen; District Attorney Steve Cooley; Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, and Mr. John March, father of slain Deputy David March, who was killed in the line of duty on April 29, 2002.

This year's memorial honored the following Los Angeles County law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty: Sheriff's Deputies Michael Arruda and James Tutino, California Highway Patrol Officer Thomas Steiner, Office of Public Safety Captain Michael Sparkes, and posthumously Marshal William D. Smith of the San Fernando Police Department, who historical research revealed was killed in 1914, one day after being sworn in.



Sheriff Lee Baca lights the memorial flame.

Deputy Arruda was assigned to the Industry Station when he was killed on June 15, 2004 after confronting an armed man at an Industry motel. Deputy Tutino of the Men's Central Jail was killed on January 26, 2005 in the Metrolink train crash in Glendale. Captain Sparkes was killed on August 10, 2004 while riding his bicycle in South Los Angeles during an altercation with assailants in a car. Officer Steiner was shot and killed on April 21, 2004 outside the Pomona Courthouse by a 16-year-old gunman looking to make a name for himself in a local street gang.

These five names join the other 449 names memorialized on the wall. Although this is an annual event, we can only hope and pray we do not have to add any other names for many years to come.



John March, father of slain deputy David March, delivers an emotional speech.



County of Los Angeles VISION

Our ***purpose*** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our ***philosophy*** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our ***shared values***:

- **A can-do attitude** - we approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- **Accountability** - we accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Compassion** - we treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- **Commitment** - we always go the extra mile to achieve our mission.
- **Integrity** - we act consistent with our values.
- **Professionalism** - we perform to a high standard of excellence.
- **Respect for diversity** - we value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- **Responsiveness** - we take the action needed in a timely manner.

Our ***position*** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- a capability to undertake programs that have public value;
- an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation; and a pledge to always work to earn the public trust.

Commission for Women Honors Adinah Solomon

Deputy Adinah Solomon (center) who recently retired after many years of service as a valued member of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's City Hall and County staff is joined by the supervisor



and his wife, Barbara, at the annual County Commission for Women Awards Luncheon held at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in downtown Los Angeles. Solomon was one of five distinguished honorees recognized for her numerous contributions and tireless service to constituents.

Supervisor Antonovich Hosts Santa Clara River Earth Day 2005

On May 12, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich (*pictured with members of the Department of Public Works*) hosted Santa Clara River Earth Day 2005, where he discussed Los Angeles County programs and measures that have been implemented to promote environmental preservation. These successful programs include waste tire collection events, household hazardous waste collection events, cleanup projects, and smart gardening workshops.

"By taking pride in our community and creating innovative public/private programs, we can reduce litter, sponsor recycling events, stop illegal dumping and raise environmental awareness," Supervisor Antonovich said. In addition to dedicating new parks and acres of open space for future generations, the County is also collaborating with the Army Corps of Engineers and the County of Ventura to conduct the Santa Clara River Watershed Management study. An important goal of this study is to prevent potential flooding within the watershed and to protect the wildlife found adjacent to the Santa Clara River.

Supervisor Antonovich also acknowledged student volunteers from Rancho Pico Junior High School for assisting with the planting of 200 new plants, which complemented the recently completed lawn and irrigation system by the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Stevenson Ranch Homeowners Association. The Department of Public Works was the project coordinator and the Department of Parks and Recreation has agreed to pay for watering and maintaining the site.

County of Los Angeles Military Reservists

Department/ Office	Number of Reservists	Number of Reservists on Active Duty
Sheriff	303	50
Health Services	113	13
Probation	54	8
Public Social Services	42	9
Public Works	41	3
Children & Family Services	29	1
Human Resources/ Office of Public Safety	28	6
Fire	26	1
District Attorney	19	4
Superior Court	14	1
Internal Services	12	2
Assessor	6	2
Child Support Services	5	1
Mental Health	5	
Parks and Recreation	3	
Public Defender	3	1
Animal Care & Control	2	1
Auditor-Controller	2	
County Counsel	2	
Treasurer & Tax Collector	2	
Affirmative Action Compliance	1	
Executive Office	1	
Community & Senior Services	1	
Coroner	1	
Military and Veteran's Affairs	1	
Regional Planning	1	



Supervisor Burke Hosts 3rd Annual Multicultural Quinceañera

A Sunday afternoon crowd of more than 250 people attended Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke's 3rd annual multicultural quinceañera at La Huasteca Restaurant in Lynwood. It was the culmination of an essay contest and several weeks of dance and etiquette lessons, enrichment training, and career development classes for 16 young women and 16 young men. The event was inspired by the Quinceañera, or la fiesta de Quince Años, a rite of passage into society for 15-year-old Latinas. Supervisor Burke decided to make it possible for foster children and other at-risk teenagers to be able to have an experience that children from more fortunate families expect as part of life.



Supervisor Burke places a tiara on each member of the Quinceañera Court.

Fifteen of the sixteen young women were selected by County social workers after participating in an essay contest, in which they tried to express how meaningful it would be to participate in a quinceañera. The young men were also selected by social workers, or were friends of the young women.

Over the course of several weeks, the young women were fitted for gowns, shopped for matching white shoes, and were outfitted with jewelry for the occasion. In etiquette classes, they



Supervisor Burke (center) took a photo with the 2005 Quinceañera Court. Also joining her were Dr. David Sanders, Director, Department of Children and Family Services (to Supervisor's right), and Sam Perdomo, Chair of the Latino Business Advisory Council of the Second District (to Supervisor's left).

learned proper behavior at a formal event and a specially choreographed waltz. They were treated to a tour of the Hot 92 Jamz radio station by radio personality and best selling author Josefa Salinas. The station was one of the Quinceañera sponsors, and held a contest to select one of the event participants.

The event began at 3 p.m., after the girls had gone through three hours of getting dressed, including make-up and hair styling. The young men arrived in tuxedos with black ties. The festivities began with a welcome from Sam Perdomo, president of the Latino Business Advisory Council of the Second District, followed by an introduction of the young women. Supervisor Burke gave opening remarks. She was followed by Josefa Salinas with an inspirational speech, and a candle lighting ceremony conducted by Father Anthony Gonzales. Supervisor Burke crowned each young woman with a coronet. Then the young women took to the floor with their escorts for a formal waltz, which was followed by a toast to the Court, and a sit-down dinner. The rest of the evening, the young attendees spent dancing until the quinceañera came to a close at 10 p.m.

A few days later, Supervisor Burke noted that the lives of numerous participants had been touched by their experience. The mother of one young woman said that her daughter, who had experienced sexual abuse from a family member, had changed from a constantly sad and weeping person to a smiling young woman after she returned from waltz practices. "She said she could see the effects in her daughter right away," Supervisor Burke said. Another young woman thanked the Supervisor after the event. "She told me that thanks to the experience she now has 31 friends. It's clear that this is a very important part of fostering understanding and appreciation among all the diverse groups in the County, and we could not have achieved this without our corporate and individual sponsors. I am very grateful to them all."

Thirty-three sponsors made the event possible, including La Feria Restaurant, Jackson Limousine, Pampered Lady Florist, Los Tapatios, La Huasteca Restaurant, the Lennox Coordinating Council, the Commission for Women, the Departments of Children and Family Services and Public Social Services, West Coast Printing & Graphics, and numerous others.

Health Department Adds Dog Bite Prevention Information to Web site

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The Department of Health Services' Veterinary Public Health program recently launched a dog bite prevention component to their Web site given the advent of summer when the incidents of dog bites usually rise. Dog bites are reportable; last year, the health department recorded 5,727 dog bites which represented 98% of all bites reported. In the summer, dog bites are more common since children are likely to be home when school is not in session.

"Children are the most frequent victims of animal bites, with children under ten years making up the majority of fatal attacks by dogs," said Patrick Ryan, D.V.M., Director of Veterinary Public Health for Health Services. "Children are at greater risk of injury, since many do not know how to behave around a dog and their small size and inability to fend off an attack put them at additional risk," he continued.

The Web site, lapublichealth.org/vet/dogattk.htm provides a list of ways people can prevent and avoid dog bites, resources for children to learn proper behavior around dogs and an online animal bite report so victims can notify the health department immediately.

Dog bites are the second most costly public health problem in the United States, exceeded only by sexually transmitted diseases. Someone in the U.S. seeks medical attention for a dog bite-related injury every 40 seconds. It is estimated that 4.4 million animal bites occur in the U.S. with 2% of the population bitten mainly by dogs each year.

Dog bites account for about 75% of bite injuries treated in emergency rooms. The jaws of adult dogs can exert approximately 200 pounds per square inch, enough to perforate sheet metal, but the teeth generally are not sharp.



In the U.S., more than half of dog bites occur at home. Most biting dogs have owners and are not strays. The victim is often the owner or a friend of the owner. The breeds most frequently responsible for severe damage are Rottweilers, Pit Bulls, and German Shepherds. In at least half the cases the attack involves an unrestrained dog on the owner's property.

Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease control, community and family health. It is comprised of more than 4,000 employees with an annual budget exceeding \$600 million.

When asked about her fondest memory of serving a County resident, agreeing to show a newly injured young man how to play wheelchair basketball came to mind. She says he was a "natural" and a dear friendship developed. He went on to compete in the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens, Greece, and Tanberg had the privilege of offering support and seeing him reach his goal.

Through her involvement in community service outside of regular work hours, Ms. Tanberg developed a Spinal Cord Injury Information Hotline in 2004 to assist spinal injury patients in locating community resources. She is the Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Southern California Rehabilitation Services-Independent Living Center, and also serves as a motivational speaker, sharing her experiences in overcoming challenges to achieve her life goals. Ms. Tanberg was a member of the USA Paralympic Basketball Team competing in the 2000 Paralympics in Sydney, Australia and continues to compete at the national level in basketball. Her participation resulted in an endorsement on the Cheerios cereal box. During the Board presentation, Supervisor Don Knabe proudly held up his autographed cereal box displaying Tanberg's photo as proof for all to see.

Having received her certification as an Occupational Therapy Assistant, Phi Beta Kappa, in 1990 from Austin Community College in Austin, Minnesota, Ms. Tanberg has subsequently received various other training. She is also a member of the Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa.

For her many accomplishments and commitment to helping those in need, we extend the highest accolades to Ms. Bobbi Jean Tanberg. She is truly a champion both on and off the court!

Supervisor Yaroslavsky Attends Groundbreaking of New Building at Children's Hospital

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky signs the first structural steel I-beam at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles (CHLA) to celebrate the groundbreaking for a new state-of-the-art 460,000 square foot New Hospital Building.

Joining him in the ceremony, from left to right are Assemblymember Paul Koretz; Philip Stanley, MD, Chairman of CHLA's Medical Staff; Amy Dilbeck, youthful cancer survivor and former CHLA patient, now working for the National Childhood Cancer Foundation in Washington, D.C.; and Los Angeles City Councilmember Eric Garcetti.

Hospital officials said the new 280-bed hospital wing, scheduled to open in 2008, will be the finest medical and surgical environment for seriously ill and injured children in the United States, offering a family-centered environment for the young patients to heal. For more information about CHLA and its programs, please visit www.childrenshospital.org.



Supervisor Knabe Helps Keep Los Angeles Air Force Base Open

On May 13, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced that the Los Angeles Air Force Base will not be cited for closure on the initial Base Relocation and Closure (BRAC) List.

"Words cannot express the elation we feel to know that Secretary Rumsfeld has recognized the military value of the Los Angeles Air Force Base," Supervisor Don Knabe said. "By keeping the Base off the BRAC list, we can ensure that the many experienced scientists and engineers in Los Angeles will continue to help provide solutions to combat terrorism and ensure our nation's security."

The Los Angeles Air Force Base Alliance, with the support of the California Council on Base Support and Retention, made a solid case for the military value of the Los Angeles Air Force Base. Supervisor Knabe provided the Alliance with the first \$100,000 to hire advocates in both Sacramento and Washington, D.C. to monitor the BRAC process on a daily basis. The Los Angeles Air Force Base manages \$60 billion in military aerospace contracts and directly employs some 4,500 seasoned defense scientists, specialists and workers. In addition, the Air Force Base impacts 125,000 jobs within the County and statewide.

"The Los Angeles Air Force Base plays an unmatched role in providing the critical technological infrastructure for our national security," Supervisor Knabe said. "If that's not enough to keep it open, Los Angeles Air Force Base generates \$16 billion in economic activity throughout California. This news is certainly good news, but we will continue to aggressively make our case with BRAC to keep our Air Force Base off any future closure and realignment list."

Supervisor Knabe added, "We are looking forward to working with General Michael Hamel as the new commander of the Los Angeles Air Force Base, and wish General Brian Arnold a happy and well-deserved retirement. This is a great day for Los Angeles County and the State of California."

Share It

Nice Kids Selling Candy...

Are They Working For a Scam Artist?



As the weather warms up, you might see kids selling candy at your local supermarket, gas station, shopping center, or even knocking on your door. “Those cute kids selling candy, hoping to earn a trip to Disney World or just trying to make extra money may be working for a scam artist,” says Pastor Herrera, Jr., Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Not all kids selling candy are working for crooks. Many are legitimately raising money for their school, church, or youth group. But some are unwittingly working for scam artists. Here’s how it works. The kids answer an advertisement stating they can earn up to \$250 a day. They are taken miles away from their homes and dropped off in an unfamiliar neighborhood. They go door to door to sell candy or are taken to a shopping center. The children are usually not supervised by an adult. They may be left behind if they wander away or the driver can’t find them, many times, they don’t get paid.

Such is the case with Kevin, a 14-year-old boy who was a victim of the candy sales scam. He and three other boys were left alone for hours on a busy street corner in Los Angeles. Kevin was instructed to say he was selling candy for his church’s choir. Although the boys worked from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., they were not paid.

La France Toliver, a Pasadena resident, shares her experience. “I’ve noticed those kids at the shopping centers. I’ve even bought candy from them. Then I recognized the same kids at different locations over time. They’re working the city, going from one location to another. The kids are always polite but persistent. I asked one of them, ‘Where are you from?’ The boy told me he was from Monrovia. That’s a couple of cities away from Pasadena. These kids are too well versed to be working a fundraiser. They are being taught to lie and work the system.”

Charities must register with the California Attorney Generals’ Charitable Trust Division. They may also have to register with the city they are fundraising in. To protect yourself, ask to see the charity’s registration documents and information card before making a purchase. Remember, that children fundraising for their church or high school usually stay within their own community. Children are required by law to be supervised by an adult. If they don’t meet these requirements, notify the police.

Some legitimate charities do hire young people to sell merchandise. You can protect your child by doing the following:

- Ask the supervisor to show you the charity’s registration and information card.
- Ask where your child is being taken and how and when they will get back home.
- Ask when your child will be paid.
- Write down the license plate number of the vehicle they will be riding in, as well as the name and description of the driver. Make sure your child has this information, as well, while fundraising.

- Tell your child to call the police if the driver leaves them alone for long periods of time or if they get lost.
- Write down the days and hours they work. The company has to pay them minimum wage, not just commission.

The Department of Consumer Affairs deals with this and other consumer concerns such as: sales transactions, credit, automobiles, landlord/tenant, identity theft and more. The Department’s services are free to County of Los Angeles residents. For more information, please call (800) 593-8222 or visit lacountydca.info.



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